Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, On July 26, 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and this action signaled a transformation in our nation's public policies toward people with disabilities; and,

Whereas, In the last 15 years, we have worked hard to eliminate harmful stereotypes, and have grown to understand and accept disability as a natural part of the human experience; and,

Whereas, We are taking steps to make public accommodations fully accessible, to ensure that people with disabilities are fully integrated into our communities and workplaces; and,

Whereas, We have come to appreciate that people with disabilities are a key element and an untapped resource in our communities; and,

Whereas, America is now a dramatically different and better country, as we have come to recognize that all Americans have talents and gifts needed by our country; and,

Whereas, The year 2005 is the 15th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2005, as

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT DAY

in South Dakota, and I call to action individuals, agencies, service and advocacy organizations within our communities to organize activities, programs, and resources during this day and the coming year to promote full inclusion of people with disabilities. I encourage all citizens to work together and alongside others across our state and nation to promote equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for all people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State